

GRADE ONE

Here and Across the World

Standard 1-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of how government functions and how government affects families.

1-3.1 Identify the basic functions of government, including making and enforcing laws and protecting citizens.

Taxonomy Level: A 1 Remember/Factual Knowledge

Previous/future knowledge: This is the first time students have learned about the functions of government. In Kindergarten (K-2.1) students explained the purposes of rules and laws and the consequences of breaking them. In second grade (2-3.1) students will recognize different types of local laws and those people who have the power and authority to enforce them. In third grade (3-5.2) students will summarize the effects of the state and local laws that are commonly known as Jim Crow laws on African Americans in particular and on South Carolinians as a whole. In fifth grade (5-1.5) they will explain the purpose and motivations behind the rise of discriminatory laws and groups and their effect on the rights and opportunities of African Americans in different regions of the United States.

It is essential for students to know and recognize the many different roles that the government plays in society. Students should explore different functions of government and identify ways that the government impacts individuals and families. It is essential for students to understand characteristics of government related to concepts like authority, justice, and responsibility. Students need to suggest and justify rules and laws for neighborhoods and communities and name consequences of not obeying rules and laws. Students should describe the basic authority given to local elected officials and identify how individuals and families depend on government services.

It is not essential for students to know the names of the three branches of government. Students do not need to know or understand the concept of a Federalist system. Students do not need to know the names of their elected officials. Students do not need to understand how the services that the government provides are paid for.

Assessment guidelines:

Appropriate assessment requires students to *identify* basic functions of government therefore; the primary focus of assessment should be to recognize examples of government functions. However, appropriate assessments should also require students to *explain* and/or *illustrate* examples of rules and laws that are enforced by our government; and *inferring* possible and real consequences of breaking laws in our society